SPRING STYLE FROM A to Z

March 2011

marie claire

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Exclusive!
MILEY CYRUS
breaks her silence
I'm sorry. I never, ever said I was perfect

WHAT'S BEST
Babies at 20? 30? 40?

Tim Gunn's style solutions+
Big Girl in a Skinny World

Engagement rage
WHEN SINGLE FRIENDS ATTACK

BIG FASHION ISSUE

Get inspired!

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CONTENTS

253

Top, $784, jeans, $313, Dries van Noten; bra, $350, Bed Behavior.

188 **ONE FOR THE ROAD**
Sweet silhouettes in traffic-stopping shades

198 **NUDE SWINGS**
A pale palette of neutrals in feel-good textures

208 **WILD THINGS**
Make way for accessories in lime, fuchsia, and gold

218 **LACY SUNDAY**
Gauzy garments leave something to the imagination

228 **MINOR THREAT**
Good looks, bad attitude, and studs: Meet the heirs to Kate Moss' punk-queen aesthetic

236 **CUBA LIBRE**
Ruffles and slits beat the Havana heat

244 **SHOP THE SHOOT**
How to get the looks in our fashion stories

IN EVERY ISSUE

23 JOANNA'S JOURNAL
24 WE HEAR YOU
26 CONTRIBUTORS
58 FREE FOR YOU
286 HOROSCOPE
288 SHOPPING DIRECTORY

FEATURES

160 **FASHION'S PHILOSOPHER**
Now in his 10th year at the helm of Lanvin, Alber Elbaz sits down with Joanna Coles

164 **EAT, PURGE, LIVE**
Competition and healing dwell side by side at the live-in treatment facility where I struggled to recover
By Meg Haston

170 **BRAVING NEW WORLDS**
How would you fare abroad? Female expats in China, India, Russia, and Brazil phone home
By Abigail Pesta

LOVE & SEX

147 Why your friends flee when you get engaged; the Facebook effect on marriage (no, it ain't good); more

149 **BABIES AT 20? 30? 40?**
Instead of solving this eternal brainteaser, we asked three moms to duke it out
As told to Elise Nersesian-Solé

THE BUZZ

153 *MARIE CLAIRE* **BULLETIN**
The spies who loved each other; risking your life to run for office; unloading gems with baggage; more

158 **THE CAREERIST**
Would an ethnic ensemble fly at your job—or not so much?

175 **RADAR**
Can't-miss TV shows, books, and movies out in March; Aubrey Plaza's steak obsession; more

290 **IN THE BAG**
Jimmy Choo shoe goddess Tamara Mellon's custom purse

BEAUTY & HEALTH

253 **SOME LIKE IT HOT**
Balmy beach days require bright eyes and lips

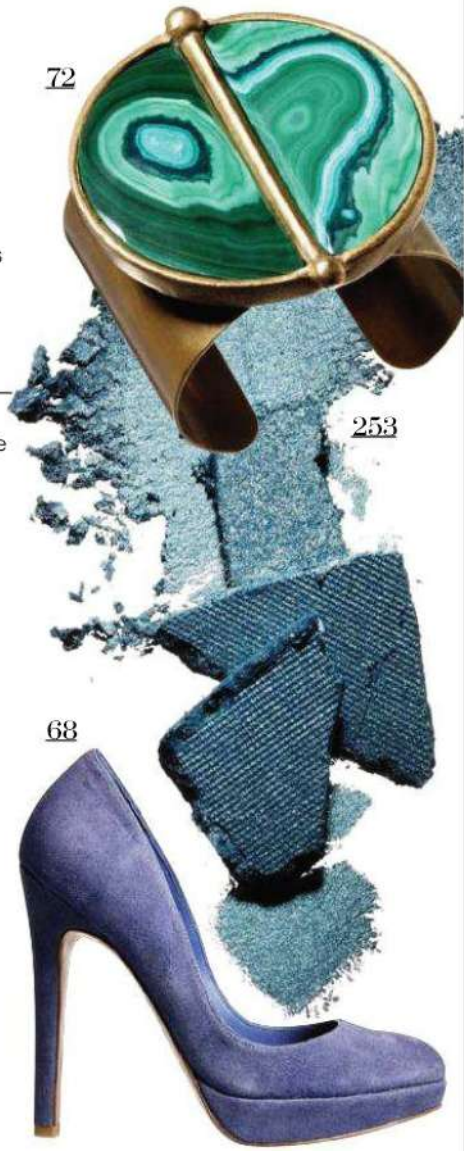
260 **THE SCIENCE OF SKINCARE**
The fountain of youth relocates—to a lab
By Ying Chu and Ning Chao

266 **BACKSTAGE REPORT: THE RULE-BREAKERS**
The renegade look of spring runway makeup
By Ning Chao and Lizzie Dunlap

273 **MASTER CLASS**
Heal your hair at home

278 **HEALTH MONITOR**
A quickie fix from Madonna's trainer; more

282 **LIFE INTERRUPTED**
A vibrant mother of two struggles with an "old man's disease"
By Christine Lennon



72

253

68

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To enter and for official rules, log on to marieclaire.com/freeforyou, click the Giveaway button, and complete the online entry form. See p. 288 for details. MAKEUP From Maybelline New York, a year's supply worth $142. HAIR PRODUCTS From John Frieda, a year's supply worth $116.

COVER: Photographed by Tesh. Fashion editor: Alison Edmond. Hair: Chris McMillan at soloartists.com. Makeup: Kara Yoshimoto Bua at Tracey Mattingly. Manicure: Jenna Hipp at Tracey Mattingly. Prop stylist: Gille Mills at The Wall Group. Production: Michelle Hynek at First Shot Productions. Newsstand cover: Dress, Roberto Cavalli. Other covers, see p. 28.

TOP RIGHT PHOTOGRAPHED BY YU TSAI. TOP & JEANS AT BERGDORF GOODMAN, (212) 753-7300; BRA, (323) 464-6645; SILVER COLLAR, $1,225, DELFINA DELETTREZ AT OPENING CEREMONY, (212) 219-2688; OPAL CHOKER & BRACELET, PRICE UPON REQUEST, PIPPA SMALL, (310) 260-9222; GRAY STONE NECKLACE, PRICE UPON REQUEST, DANIELA VILLEGAS AT ROSEARK, (323) 822-3600; IVORY PENDANTS, $875 TO $1,125, BRACELET, $800, SILVER CLUSTER BRACELET, $825, ME & RO, (917) 237-9215; BLUE & GREEN CORD BRACELETS, $20 EACH, PANDORA, PANDORA.NET; BARBED-WIRE BRACELET, $640, TOM BINNS DESIGN, (917) 475-1412; BIRD'S HEAD BRACELET, $255, BOYNYC, SHOPBOYNYC.COM; OPAL RING, PRICE UPON REQUEST, DARLENE DE SEDLE AT F.D, (212) 772-2440; FRINGE RING, PRICE UPON REQUEST, SOLANGE AZAGURY-PARTRIDGE, (212) 879-9100

SHE CAN'T BE TAMED

From Disney darling to cover star, Miley Cyrus closes in on A-list style

Best friend in tow and eager to play dress up, Miley Cyrus arrived at the Agoura Hills, California, set of our cover shoot clad in skinny black J Brand jeans, studded Zadig & Voltaire boots, and a shredded vintage tee. Despite having posed for more photographs than the pope, the 18-year-old delighted in trying on racks of crystal-embellished looks as if it were her first time in front of a camera. The *MC* team's objective: to bring a quiet sophistication to the star's can't-be-taught confidence. The tools: everything from an AF Vandervorst chain-mail frock to a daring lace-up Roberto Cavalli (which Cyrus loved so much, she came *thisclose* to wearing it to the American Music Awards). Tribal necklaces were deemed particularly "rad" by the Nashville native. But the highest affections were reserved for Mom Tish, to whom Cyrus mouthed "I love you" in between shots.

GET MILEY'S LOOK

1. Top $450, J.Crew; jcrew.com. **2. Dress $895**, Robert Rodriguez; (213) 629-2800. **3. Necklace $585**, Iosselliani; barneys.com. **4. Jacket $428**, Guess by Marciano; guessbymarciano.com. **5. Top $138**, J.Crew; jcrew.com. **6. Shorts $60**, ASOS; asos.com. **7. Ring $135**, Noir; noirjewelry.com. **8. Shoes $850**, Michael Kors; (866) 709-5677 for stores. **9. Cuff $190**, Fallon; scoopnyc.com for stores. **10. Top $398**, Twelfth Street by Cynthia Vincent; piperlime.com.

STILL LIFES: BEN GOLDSTEIN/STUDIO D AND CHARLOTTE JENKS LEWIS/STUDIO D, STYLED BY ANITA SALERNO AT R.J. BENNETT REPRESENTS INC. AND KRISTY VANT AT MARK EDWARD INC. TOP RIGHT: TESH. ACCESSORIES ON CYRUS, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: SHOES: CESARE PACIOTTI; BRACELET, JANIS BY JANIS SAVITT; RINGS, CHERYL LYNN JEWELRY & JESSICA WINZELBERG. RINGS, NICKY HILTON. RINGS, LOREE RODKIN

» For more celebrity backstage pics, go to marieclaire.com/behind-the-scenes.

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style in *motion*

More fashion, more beauty, more *Marie Claire*.

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- Get insider tips from celebrity hairstylist Chris McMillan
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fashion

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>>Miley Cyrus cozies up to heavy metals
>>Flash your brights: Neon goes conservative
>>Taupe secret: 3-D textures bring neutrals to life
>>Bold necessities: Meet the season's can't-be-ignored shoes and bags
>>Be seduced by not-so-virginal white lace
>>Postmodern punks: Up-and-coming models tough it out
>>Discover the glamour of a forbidden island

Dress, price upon request, Ralph Lauren Collection; shoes, $920, Cesare Paciotti; drop earrings, $300, Caleo Jewelry; rings, $1,000 to $2,200, Cheryl Lynn Jewelry; stud earring, Cyrus' own.

For stores, see Shopping Directory.

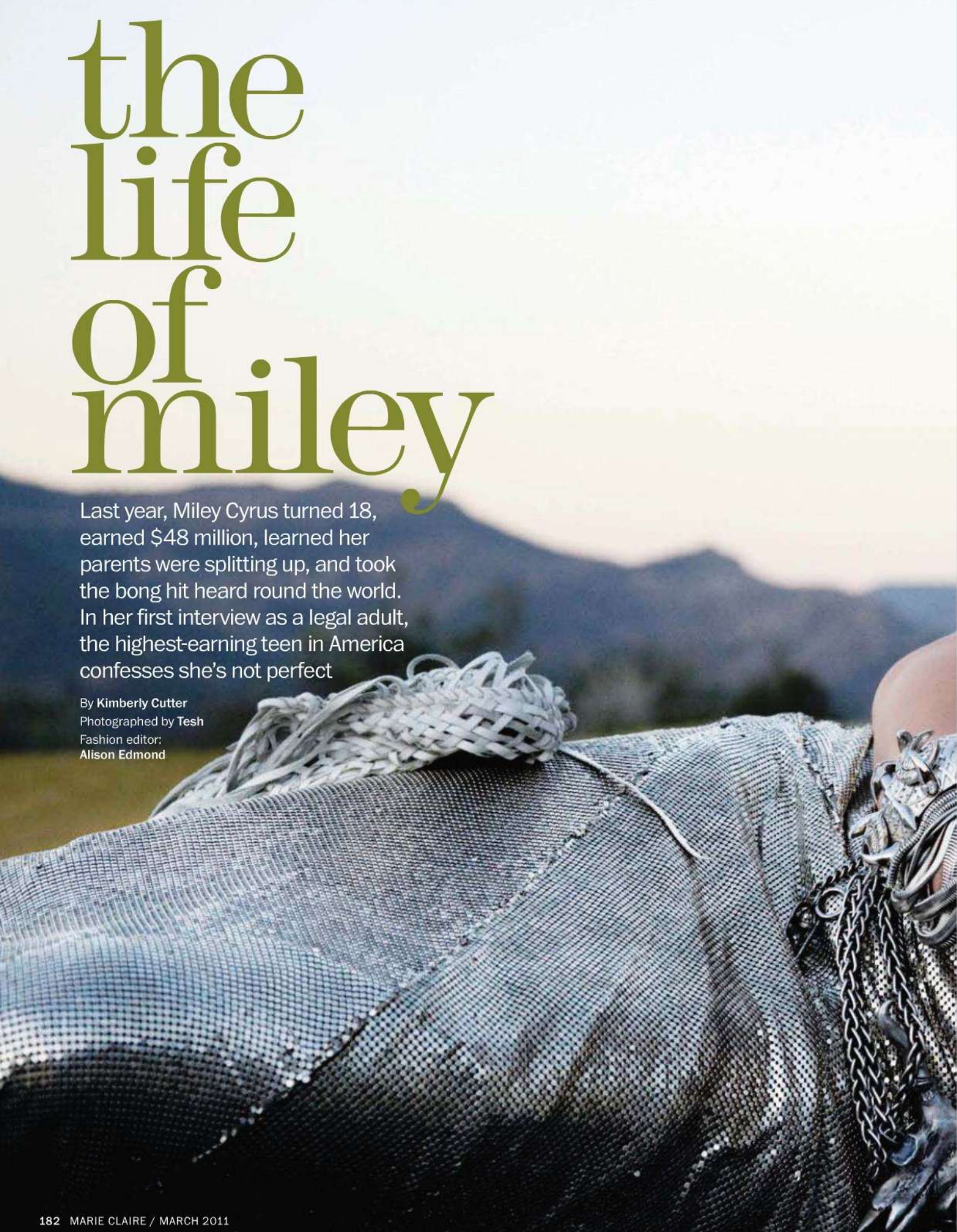
Fashion director: **Nina Garcia**

PHOTOGRAPHED BY TESH

the life of miley

Last year, Miley Cyrus turned 18, earned $48 million, learned her parents were splitting up, and took the bong hit heard round the world. In her first interview as a legal adult, the highest-earning teen in America confesses she's not perfect

By **Kimberly Cutter**
Photographed by **Tesh**
Fashion editor:
Alison Edmond



Dress, price upon request, AF Vandevorst; necklace, $415, ring, $295, Gem Kingdom; choker, $295, necklace, $275 (both worn as belt), Haute Hippie. On Cyrus' right arm: Snake-chain bracelet, $363, Janis by Janis Savitt; sculptural silver cuff, $1,950, Jen Kao. On Cyrus' left arm: Bangle set, $295, Assad Mounser; beaded bangle, $165, Carol Marie. Leather jacket (in background), $2,935, Just Cavalli.

“Of course anyone is going to be upset when there are troubles in their family, but I have a lot of hope in our family, and no matter what happens, we’re gonna stay strong.”

This page: Jacket, $3,595, Burberry Prorsum; nose stud, Cyrus' own.

Opposite page: Dress, $1,750, Gareth Pugh; earrings, price upon request, Jack Vartanian. On Cyrus' right hand: Black oval ring, $95, LowLuv by Erin Wasson; onyx rectangular ring, $266, spike ring, $166, Nicky Hilton. On Cyrus' left hand: Triple-bar ring, $76, LowLuv by Erin Wasson; jet crystal ring, $265, Atelier Swarovski by Prabal Gurung. Nose stud, Cyrus' own. **On hair:** John Frieda Frizz-Ease Dream Curls Curl Perfecting Spray.

I'm inclined to give Miley Cyrus a pass on the whole bong-smoking thing. I'm inclined to think, *Lord, honey, just steer clear of the cameras next time.* And I tell Cyrus this when I meet her. We're down in New Orleans, where she's shooting her new comedy, *So Undercover*, and we're sitting in her big cozy trailer around twilight, and we've spent the day together now, so a certain level of comfort has been established. The subject of "The Bong Incident" (which, in case you have been living under a rock, involved a two-and-a-half-minute video of Cyrus smoking a bong filled with salvia, an herb sold legally in many health-food stores, posted on TMZ in December) has come up, and after she says all the things you expect her to say ("I'm not perfect . . . I made a mistake . . . I'm disappointed in myself for disappointing my fans . . ."), I cannot help but set my journalist hat aside for a minute and say, "But do you really think it was a mistake? Obviously college kids your age all over America are smoking bongs with a lot more than salvia in them."

She looks at me with her big blue baby-doll eyes. "But they're not Miley Cyrus," she says. "They're not role models. So for me it was a bad decision, because of my fans and because of what I stand for."

I don't know what happened on *your* 18th birthday, but in the space of about three weeks, Disney's number-one teen princess—the highest-earning kid in America—turned 18 (aka "The Disney Death Sentence"), saw the bong video *and* a photo of her "makeout" with Nickelodeon star Avan Jogia spread like wildfire over the Internet, and learned that her parents, Billy Ray and Tish Cyrus, were getting divorced—possibly, the tabloids shouted, because her mom had an affair with the lead singer of Poison.

Welcome to Miley Cyrus' world.

■ There are no paparazzi allowed in the Garden District of New Orleans, which might be why Cyrus looks so damned relaxed and happy roaming around the old plantation-style house on Jackson Avenue where they're shooting *So Undercover* today. (The plot: Cyrus plays a private investigator who goes undercover in a Southern sorority house to protect a mob boss's daughter and rooms with Kelly Osbourne.) There are no strange men hiding in the camellia bushes, waiting to pop out and ambush her with flashbulbs and shout, "How do you feel about your folks splitting up, Miley?" Or: "What's up with your mom and Bret Michaels?" Or: "Give us a pole dance, Miley!"

Another benefit to New Orleans: no frowning Disney executives on hand to breathe fire down Cyrus' neck about the bong incident. Or the "making out" business at her 18th birthday party. (For the record, Cyrus says: "If you look at the picture, I'm turned away, and he's kissing me on the cheek. It's very hilarious to me that people say, 'They're making out.' In making out, there's a tongue.") Here, no one will chastise her for the decidedly un-role-model-like themes on the album *Can't Be Tamed* that she released last year. No one is going to stick a finger in Cyrus' face and say, "Listen, kid, who do you think made you that big mountain of cash these last five years?"

> "He's kissing me on the cheek. It's very hilarious to me that people say, 'They're making out.' In making out, there's a tongue."

Cyrus at the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards with her parents, Billy Ray and Tish, in March 2010.

In the Garden District, 18-year-old Miley Cyrus is free to be 18-year-old Miley Cyrus, a girl of high enthusiasms. What is she enthusiastic about these days? Well, there is her goal to "spread love and change the world in 2011." There are the new hot-pink Christmas lights from Target that she just strung up inside her white Chevy Suburban. There is the comedy *LOL* that she made earlier this year with Demi Moore, with whom she still talks to (or texts) almost every day. ("It really felt like Demi was my mom a little bit because we had such great conversations, and I feel like it shows on-screen. I can't wait for *LOL* to come out. It's what I'm most proud of.") There is her *So Undercover* costar and new friend Kelly Osbourne, whom she adores and often runs around with on the set, singing "You're the One That I Want" from *Grease* or "My Favorite Things" from *The Sound of Music*. ("We're so much alike, it's crazy.") But perhaps most of all, at the moment, Cyrus is enthusiastic about the stack of pizzas that are due to arrive on set any minute. "I don't know about y'all, but I'm starving!" Cyrus says as she comes bounding into the room on a break between takes. "*Star*-ving!" (An hour ago, Cyrus and Osbourne were telling me about the "amazing spinach smoothies" the cook makes for them each morning on set "because we're on a health kick." Now: pizza party!)

Cyrus on location in Paris with *LOL* costar Douglas Booth in September 2010.

In person, Cyrus is tall and lean and curvy as a violin. Taller than you'd imagine. Also louder; she speaks with the bold, jokey air of someone who is used to being liked—and listened to—by every person in the room. She has a cheerleader's confidence and the laugh of a truck-stop waitress. It seems almost uncannily perfect that today the grand old Southern mansion they're shooting in has been refitted as a KKZ sorority house, because in a lot of ways Miley Cyrus resembles nothing so much as a very friendly, very popular, very hard-working sorority girl.

A sorority girl who happened to make $48 million last year. »

continued on p. 284

HAIR: CHRIS MCMILLAN AT SOLOARTISTS.COM. MAKEUP: KARA YOSHIMOTO BUA AT TRACEY MATTINGLY. MANICURE: JENNA HIPP AT TRACEY MATTINGLY. PROP STYLIST: GILLE MILLS AT THE WALL GROUP. PRODUCTION: MICHELLE HYNEK AT FIRST SHOT PRODUCTIONS. PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Dress, price upon request, Roberto Cavalli; necklace, $245, Dominique Aurientis; oxidized silver ring, $4,800, Irit Design; peacock feather ring, price upon request, Loree Rodkin; bracelet & nose stud, Cyrus' own. **On lips:** Maybelline New York Color Sensational Lipcolor in Warm Me Up.

continued from p. 187

She was not born Miley Cyrus. She was born Destiny Hope Cyrus on November 23, 1992, in Nashville, Tennessee. Her parents are the country star Billy Ray Cyrus (of fleeting "Achy Breaky Heart" fame) and his wife, Tish—a pretty ex-ballerina with long blonde hair and the tight-jeans-and-boots style of a Hollywood teenager. (In total there are five kids in the Cyrus family—two from Tish's previous relationship, and Cyrus' two younger siblings, brother Braison and sister Noah.) As the story goes, they started calling her "Smiley" because she smiled all the time, and at some point—as often happens in families with toddlers who haven't yet got a firm grasp on the English language—Smiley got shortened to "Miley," and that was that.

From the beginning, it was a big-haired, boot-stompin', star-studded life. Waylon Jennings hung out at the Cyrus kitchen table. "Aunt Dolly" Parton came teetering over in her high heels and dispensed cheeky Southern wisdom. (Parton and Billy Ray recorded the song "Romeo" together in 1992.) At age 2, Cyrus ran onstage during an Elvis tribute concert, jumped into her daddy's arms, and joined in singing with Melissa Etheridge, Dwight Yoakam, and Aaron Neville. Everyone passed her around, and at the end, Tony Bennett held her up like a priest at a baptism and said, "You've got a special little girl here."

By the time she was 9, Cyrus had convinced her parents to let her take singing and acting classes at the Armstrong Studio in Toronto—where the Cyrus clan had moved while Billy Ray shot the TV show *Doc*. Then came *Hannah Montana*. Cyrus was 12 when she landed the show's starring role as an ordinary schoolgirl by day/child rock star by night, and by the time she was 16, *Hannah Montana* was a full-on national obsession.

It's estimated that Cyrus made around $25 million in 2008 and 2009—due in large part to her Best of Both Worlds concert tour, but also from *Hannah Montana: The Movie*, the CDs, and the sales of a whole cornucopia of *Hannah Montana* merchandise, ranging from dolls and lunch boxes to underwear and sleeping bags. She has "no idea" what she's going to do with all the money—which, as of her 18th birthday, is now all hers. "I plan on one day sitting down with everybody and seeing what I've made over the past few years that I've been working, but I haven't really done that yet," she says. She adds that she is, however, extremely frugal. "I'm very careful about the things I buy, because a year from now, I know I'm gonna look at a thing that I spent 30 grand on and say, 'What the heck was I thinking? I don't want a diamond skull.'"

On one hand, Cyrus' $48 million haul in 2010 is nearly double what she earned the year before; on the other hand, *Hannah Montana* is basically kaput. The final season was shot last year (and just finished airing), and while reruns will probably keep running until the ice caps melt, *Hannah Montana*–related profits will decline sharply from here on out. Cyrus' status as Disney's number-one teen princess has reached its expiration date; very soon the gates of the Magic Kingdom will slam shut behind her forever.

> "I never wanted my fans to feel like I betrayed them . . . But I've never, ever claimed to be perfect . . . I've always said, 'I'm gonna make mistakes.'"

I do not get the sense that Cyrus sees this as a great tragedy. For the past six years she's basically been stuck wearing a scratchy pink princess dress with leg-of-mutton sleeves while most American teens were contemplating the merits of leaking their own sex tapes on the Internet. Now she's free: Bring on the black bras! Cyrus will not say a word against the Walt Disney Company, but when I ask her if she misses anything about *Hannah Montana*, she says, "Um, yeah, some things . . ." And comes up with nothing.

However, get her started on the subject of her fans and it's like a rainbow comes arching through the window. Cyrus loves her fans. Loves. Them. And the idea that *Can't Be Tamed* might have alienated any of them causes her to immediately grow as serious as a slab of marble. "What I never wanted was for my fans to ever feel like I betrayed them," she says, ". . . to feel like I said I was something, then turned around and was something that I'm not," she says. "But I've never, ever claimed to be perfect. I mean, since I've started the show, I've always said, 'I'm gonna make mistakes.' I know this. And I think that that is one of the reasons why people related to me. Why kids related to me."

At the moment, she's not sure if she'll make another album. She hated that she was too busy filming *LOL* to tour with *Can't Be Tamed*, and she feels like a lot of the album's lyrics were taken out of context. (Among reviewers, there was a general assumption that Cyrus was addressing her Disney bosses when she sang, "I need to breathe/I'm not your robot/Stop telling me I'm part of this big machine/I'm breaking free.")

"I feel like I want to wait until I can make a record that says exactly what I need to say, you know, that is kind of perfect for me and my fans," she says. Maybe at some point, she'll get back to her roots and do a country record, but right now the music she's writing is personal. (Cyrus has kept journals her whole life. "Not ones I write every day. But even if I write just one word—like, if I'm just mad, I'll write, 'I'm so mad right now! It's December, and I'm so mad!'") She continues, "Lately, I've been writing so much on my own time, about things that are for me. I just haven't written anything recently that I've wanted to share."

She does not mention her parents' reported split in this context, but when I ask her about it later, she says, "Of course anyone is going to be upset when there are troubles in their family, but I have a lot of hope in our family, and no matter what happens, we're gonna stay strong." She pauses. "I just want my mom to be happy and my dad to be happy and, most of all, my little sister to be happy."

As for her own happiness, Cyrus has two goals for 2011: Goal number one is to go to work as a missionary in Indonesia and build wells and bring water to people who need it. "Honestly, I cannot sleep at night because I get so excited about doing good things for the world, changing the world," she says. Goal number two is to make more comedies. "Physical comedy is my thing. I love it." She pauses. "I still have a lot to learn, of course . . . but I've been on *Hannah Montana* long enough that I know how to fall; I know how to put a pie in my face and make it funny. And there's no better feeling than making someone smile."

Of this much, at least, Miley Cyrus is sure. mc

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